DEF 12-5 JORDAN

807

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

SECRET

EXCISE

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INFO RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 58
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY PARIS 31
RUFHDN/AMEMBASSY LONDON 45
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S E C R E T OCTOBER 21-

LIMDIS

CINCSTRIKE FOR POLAD

EMBTEL 218; PARIS 2147 TO DEPT.

MIRAGES FOR JORDAN.

WE WERE INFORMED BY [redacted] THAT GOJ HAD NOW RPT NOW RECEIVED WRITTEN OFFER ON MIRAGES FROM FRENCH AND THAT TWO TECHNICIANS ARRIVING FOLLOWING DAY FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. OFFER WAS 9 YEARS CREDIT AT 7.75 PERCENT, 6 PERCENT DOWN PAYMENT ON SIGNATURE OF CONTRACT, 6 PERCENT

PAGE 2 RUQMKG 138A S E C R E T
SIX MONTHS LATER AND 5 1/2 PERCENT END NEXT SIX MONTHS. PRICE FOR 36 MIRAGES III E AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (EMBTEL 209) INCLUDED SPARES FOR ONE YEAR BASED ON 15 HOURS FLYING PER MONTH AND APPROXIMATELY 75 MISSILES WORTH ABOUT JD 22,000 PER MISSILE. NO LOW FLYING RADAR AND NO PHOTO EQUIPMENT INCLUDED, BOTH OF WHICH GOJ DESIRED. ALSO SOUGHT SPARES FOR 20 HOURS FLYING PER MONTH.

[redacted] FINANCIAL TERMS COMPLETELY IMPOSSIBLE. HE SAID HE WOULD NEVERTHELESS NEGOTIATE WITH FRENCH AND, DESPITE KING'S OPPOSITION TO LIGHTNINGS ([redacted] PLANNED CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS WITH BRITISH. HE SAID BRITISH APPEARED MORE EAGER TO SELL THAN FRENCH AND THEREFORE MIGHT BE WILLING OFFER BETTER TERMS. IN ANY CASE CON-

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TINUED NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITISH MIGHT LEAD FRENCH OFFER MORE REALISTIC TERMS OR, AS LAST RESORT, IF FRENCH NEGOTIATIONS COLLAPSED, LIGHTNING STILL PREFERABLE TO MIGS.

RE PARA 4 SECOND REFTEL, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING STANDARD UAC OFFER HAS BEEN FOR MIG 21S SUPPLIED THROUGH UAC AT COST OF 6.5 MILLION POUNDS STERLING FOR 20 AIR-

PAGE 3 RUQMKG 138A S E C R E T
CRAFT. LEBANESE WE BELIEVE WERE EARLIER TOLD BY UAC THEN COULD NOT EXCEED THIS UNIT COST FOR MIRAGES. KHAMMASH HAS NEVERTHELESS EXPRESSED HOPE HE MIGHT GET 6.5 MILLION POUNDS FOR SMALLER 12 PLANE SQUADRON OF MIRAGES BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE HE HAS EVER DISCUSSED THIS WITH UAC. THERE HAS NEVER TO OUR KNOWLEDGE BEEN SOVIET OFFER AT ANYTHING LIKE $80 MILLION FIGURE NOR ANY SPECIFIC DISCUSSION OF TERMS BETWEEN SOVIETS AND GOJ.

FOLLOWING LAST SUMMIT [redacted] NASSER HAD OFFERED MIG 21S AT BETWEEN JD 100,000 AND JD 200,000 PER PLANE AND SAID HE HAD CLEARED THIS NEW FIGURE IN MOSCOW. IT WAS NOT SPECIFIED WHAT THIS FIGURE INCLUDED RE SPARES, ETC., BUT APPARENTLY 36 MIG 21S ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT AROUND $20,000,000.

GP-3. BARNES